

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification with the following replacement paragraph, marked up to show changes made relative to the immediate prior version.

[0070] FIG. 23 illustrates a Load/Unload command 2300 that uses an interlocked protocol to simulate the load/unload sequences of a conventional tape device. If the load bit set to one ~~2310~~2305, the Load command is processed the same as a Rewind command 2320, as described above. Otherwise, if the load bit is set to zero, the prevent media removal state of the virtual tape drive is checked to allow the virtual tape drive to be unloaded. If prevent media removal is active 2310, the unload command is terminated with a check condition status with a request sense data buffer constructed to report an illegal request 2312 error condition; and the request sense data buffer flag is set to a valid state. If prevent media removal is not active, the volume data management table is updated 2315 to record any pending write operations and the volume management table is updated to indicate the virtual tape drive is empty 2315. If the previous virtual tape volume was not the last volume 2335, then the next virtual data management table is loaded 2340. The virtual data management table parameters are initialized as follows: TapeBlockPosition = 0; DiskLogicalBlockAddress = starting sector for the active virtual tape volume; TapeBlockSize = position zero; NextFileMark = tape block position of the first File Mark + 1, if no file marks are present NextFileMark = 0; NextSetMark = tape block position of the first Set Mark + 1, if no file marks are present NextSetMark = 0; NextBlockSize = tape block position of the next block size change + 1, if no block size changes are present NextBlockSize = 0; EndOfData = current End-of-Data tape block position; VTS_TapeDrive flag set to force the first received command to get a check condition status indicating a new tape load has occurred. If the previous virtual tape volume was greater than or equal to the last volume 2335, then the archival tape device(s) is checked 2350. If a write protected tape cartridge is present 2355, then the next available virtual tape device is set to operate the physical tape device directly 2365. Otherwise, the next virtual tape volume is set to the first one 2360 so as to loop from the last virtual tape volume to the first virtual tape volume.